TIMES-VIRGINIAN
In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION Member

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers*

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to the Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Va. Subscription rate: $2 a year, payable in advance. Single copy 5c. National advertising representative: Weekly Newspaper Representatives, Inc., 920 Broadway, New York City. Advertising rates upon request.

EDITORIAL OPINION

BILLIONS BET ON SOUND ECONOMY

(The Sherman, Texas, Democrat)

In the decade since World War II, American business has risked $218,200,000,000 in capital improvement for plant and equipment. That is a huge bet by business that the nation's economy is sound. It could not have said it any more impressively.

This year, the total expenditure planned for new factories, machine tools, modernization and the like again is a near-record. The figures reported for capital improvement reach a thumping $27,100,000,000 for this year, only $1,200,000,000 below the peak year for 1953, and second only to that record year.

Annual reports of American industrial and financial companies now rolling off the presses support the forecast of Government economists of this great capital expenditures year. They form a vote of confidence in the stability of business conditions which will have a wide and favorable impact on the economy.

The main impetus to capital spending, of course, has come from improved sales and earnings. Good business in 1954 encourages expansion this year. It provides the money for these expenditures. Management anticipates there will be more this year.

The provisions of the 1954 tax law, which permit higher depreciation charges on new faciilties during their earlier years, has been another stimulating factor. Also, investment funds at favorable long-term interest rates are in plentiful supply.

These are all specific props to optimism. The basic one, however, is the fact that the United States is growing both in population and in market. Increased earnings and higher standards of living create the consumer markets and business profits that furnish the funds for new expendtiures. Business and industry keep pace with this growth.

Dial 2811 with Personals.

MAYBE IT'S POSSIBLE

(Newport News Times-Hearld)

Suggestions for a 12-month school year are no strangers to this page. They come naturally in these days of short school space and the use of everything from residences and church facilities to Quonset huts to house school pupils.

So it isn't surprising to find authorities in Henrico County discussing institution of the year-around system of schooling. The problem is really acute in Henrico which is growing in population by leaps and bounds and has been hard put to find classrooms for its school children in spite of a considerable tax increase three years ago and issuance of $4,000,000 in bonds in 1953.

* * *

The problem of Henrico is the problem of many another county or community in Virginia which is growing by leaps and bounds in many urban and suburban areas. One such section is our own Virginia Peninsula where Warwick led the state in population increase percentage in the 1950 census and Hampton also showed substantial gains. Even hemmed-in Newport News showed population growth during the decade between 1940 and 1950 and the 1950 figures are already far out of date.

Just how far the current discussion in Henrico will go is problematical. There are many contrary arguments to having a 12-month school year. It would entail a drastic revision of school schedules, what with the necessity of having a fourth of the school pupils on vacation in every quarter. There would be difficulties for the family with more than one child of school age if the children should happen to be in classes having vacations in different quarters.

* * *

Many families, as well as pupils, would be adverse to school in summer such as the year-around plan would entail.

But these factors might be worked out and may not be as formidable as they appear on the surface.

THE HOOVER REPORTS

(The New York Times)

It is all very well for statesmen, politicians and the public to sing loud praises of the Hoover Commission and its work; but the fact is that this great effort to bring efficiency, economy and businesslike administration into the sprawling complex of the Federal Government is in danger of getting nowhere.

The Hoover Commission has been publishing its findings at almost the rate of one a week since mid-February—eight reports thus far, with eight more to come. We have agreed with many of the recommendations and not with others; but all of them are certainly worthy of widespread public and legislative discussion. Yet almost nothing has been done by way of action on them. The record is particularly depressing when compared with the record of action on recommendations of the first Hoover Commission during the Truman Administration. The reports were being put into effect, The picture is different today.

Although eight reports have already been issued, including both controversial and noncontroversial ones, nothing of any measurable moment has happened. No new legislation has been presented. So far as we are aware no administrative action has been taken. The commission itself, empowered to prepare legislation, has not done so. Neither has the White House. Neither has any committee of Congress. Undoubtedly the recommendations are being "studied" somewhere in the Government. But if no action is taken this year, none is likely next year, at least on any controversial matter, because of the election.

What has happened to the special committee created two years ago by President Eisenhower to work on problems of governmental reorganization? What has happened to the enthusiasm for "business efficiency" in the Foderal Government? Where is the drive to get things done in this vital field? If any exists, we would be glad to know about it because thus far we haven't seen it in evidence.

MURDER IS ROUTINE

(The Winchester Star)

In the early days of the American West murder was a capital crime, just as it is today. But men lived by the might of their guns, with undue regard for courts and law. Killings were so common that adeptness at drawing was frequently a requisite for survival.

Gradually the reign of the gunman was ended, and human life came to be regarded with greater respect.

But today, in the East as well as in the West, murder has become almost routine in the news. In their brutality and wantonness many of the homicides of today are past human understanding.

Whole families are wiped out merely to get the individuals out of the way because they do not fit in the pattern of a parent's life. Husbands shoot wives, wives murder husbands. Helpless children are killed while they sleep. Other offi-spring murder paernts because they are refused spending money, or for some equally trivial reason.

Law enforcement put an end to the reign of the pioneer gunman. The six-shooter became obsolete. The present situation cannot be cured by mercy from the bench, easy paroles of convicted murderers or pleas of insanity too often taken for granted.

Murder must again be viewed as capital crime, as it was in those earlier days, and the perpetrators punished accordingly.

LIVING LONGER

(Winchester Star)

Average length of life in the United States has increased by at least 30 years since 1850, according to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's statisticians.

Under mortality conditions prevailing at the middle of the past century, it is noted, the expectation of life at birth was less than 40 years; but by 1954 the figure had risen to about 70 years.

Although the gains in longevity have continuel for a century, they have been much greater since 1900 than in the preceding 50 years. Among white males the increase in the expectation of life at birth was about 10 years from 1850 to 1900, and about 18½ years in the following half century; among white females the corresponding increases were 10½ years and 21½ years.

Progress in extending the average length of life, according to the statisticians, was accelerated with the quickened tempo of advances in preventtive and curative mediicne, and in environmental sanitation.

"In the latter part of the 19th century, the infectious diseases were still taking a heavy toll of life annually, and at times epidemics virtually ravaged sections of the population," the statisticians observe. "As examples, in 1891, the death rate from typhoid fever in Chicago reached 172 per 100,000 of population, and in 1881-82 in Baltimore the diphtheria death rate was 260 per 100,000."

There has been no major epidemic in the United States for 35 years, the last one being the influenza epidemic of 1918-1919, the statisticians point out.

LANGUAGES

(Eastern Shore News)

Pittsburgh is experimenting with the teaching of a foreign language to its first-graders. The youngsters are being exposed to either French or Spanish. Their teachers expect them to pick up one tongue or the other in the same way they learned to speak their own language — by listening.

Childhood is the best time to learn a foreign language. More and more public school systems throughout the country are taking advantage of that fact.

The biggest stumbling block to expansion of this very worth while addition to grade school work is the acute shortage of qualified teachers.

One way or another, though, this problem can and must be solved. Our responsibilities in the world make it essential that more of our citizens should speak the language of others. Language is communication, and communication is the first step toward mutual understanding, not merely between men but between nations as well.

College Costs: Up They Go

The cost of a college education is going up. Students and their parents had better brace themselves for the shock. By next fall, tuition costs will be raised from the present fee of $800 to $1,000 in a few schools, and other schools are fikely to increase their charges proportionately. Tax-supported colleges will also increase their tuition fees, primarily for out-of-state students.

—Changing Times.

Old saw rewritten: A fool and his money are welcome everywhere.

—Changing Times.

'HIGHWAY MORAL IN 3-D'

(Christian Science Monitor)

The Travelers Insurance Company has put out its annual pamphlet on the causes of highway accidents. This one is entitled "Misguided Missiles." And one of several pointed cartoons with which the book is loaded explains what that title means. In it a motorist, blithely plunging through a guard fence and over a cliff, is expounding to his feminine companion: "And this buggy has every safety feature the manufacturer could think to put in it."

The booklet goes on:

No matter how good the road or how mechanically perfect the car, it is the driver who can, in an instant of carelessness o[r] … cy, transform the road … of carnage and the aut[o] … a missile of destruction.

Since the Travelers is … largest in this field … collision, property dama[ge] … sonal liability risks with … lions of policy-holders, … know.

Eight years ago a … cation by this same co[mpany] … no account of intoxica[tion] … dents. A year or so later … ed that the difficulty of … whether drinking caused … dent restrained it from … statistics on this point. … that time on, to its cred[it] … pany began warning … drivers.

ATTENTION
Pipeline Workers
To serve you, we are now opening at 4:00 A. M. and remaining open at nights.
Also Open on SUNDAYS.
EAT AT
GUILL'S SNACK BAR
Main St. Appomattox

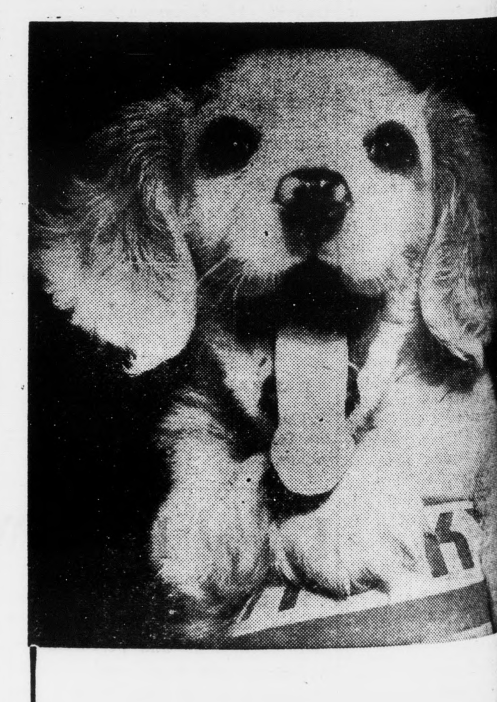
FLASH:-
Spring is here, NOW is the time to paint "YOUR HOME," with "famous STAG paint" (ONE GALLON MAKES TWO) at a cost of $3.83 per gallon, and that's SUPERIOR QUALITY PAINT.
See us for FREE PLAN BOOKS and get our CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS, when you are planning on building that NEW HOME.
When "repairing" or "remodeling" your property, see us for "QUALITY BUILDING MATERIALS," at *reasonable prices.*
H. E. DeWITT CO., INC.
12th & Commerce Sts.
Lynchburg, Va.

Introducing
5 GREAT NEW McCormick® FARMALLS
all with Fast-Hitch ★ 16 NEW MODELS!

NEW FARMALL® 400 • 4-Plow ... 4-Row • Torque Amplifier • Hydra-Touch • Independent pto
NEW FARMALL 200 • 2-Plow ... 2-Row • Hydra-Creeper • Touch-Control • Disc Brakes
NEW FARMALL 300 • 3-Plow ... 4-Row • Torque Amplifier • Hydra-Touch • Independent pto
NEW FARMALL 100 • 1-2-Plow Power • Culti-Vision • Touch-Control • Precision Steering
NEW FARMALL CUB® • 1-Plow Power • Culti-Vision • Touch-Control • Precision Steering
Come In ... Try All That's New! Learn how Fast-Hitch, Torque Amplifier, Hydra-Touch hydraulic system and other "Farmall Firsts" can help you farm faster, easier, and far better than ever before. Let us help you choose the Farmall—*from 5 sizes and 16 models*—that *exactly* fits your needs. See us soon ... get a free demonstration!
LINE UP WITH THE LEADER—YOU'LL BE AHEAD WITH A FARMALL!
APPOMATTOX TRUCK&TRACTOR INC.
Appomattox, Virginia

our modern cleaning metho[ds] are good to your clothes
LET US RESCUE YOU WITH OUR FINE DRY CLEANING SERVICE!
Soiled, spotted clothes put you "on the spot" so[cially] and in business! Why take a chance when our expert dry cleaning keeps your clothes immaculate, well-pressed at a suprisingly low cost.
HERNCALL'S
LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING
Phone 2711 Appomattox

GET YOUR
Lawn Mowers Sharpened Now
HAND MOWERS sharpened for ....
POWERED MOWERS for .... $3.5[0]
Expertly Sharpened by Machinery
Also complete line of new lawn mowers & equip[ment]
APPOMATTOX HARDWARE CO. IN[C.]
Phone 3131 Appomattox

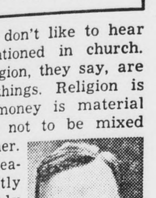

"You'd be out of breath, too – after following my master on a trip to pay bills! Why doesn't he pay them with checks, by mail?"
THE CHECK WAY'S THE SELF-SAVING – AND SAFE-WAY TO PAY. WE INVITE YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT.
The Farmers National Bank
MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
APPOMATTOX VIRGINIA

THE BIBLE SPEAKS
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: II Chronicles 34.
Devotional Reading: I Kings 8:27-30.

Financing Religion

Lesson for May 8, 1955


Dr. Foreman

SOME people don't like to hear money mentioned in church. Money and religion, they say, are two different things. Religion is spiritual and money is material and one ought not to be mixed with the other. This kind of reasoning is partly right, but only partly. It is quite true that faith, hope and love, which are the heart of religion, cannot be paid for. No church can sell you a dollar's worth of faith. The grace of God is not on sale, at any price. It is also true that financing a church, even when well and handsomely done, won't by itself keep religion from dying. The writer knew a church that had been endowed. They never mentioned money in that church, they never took up an offering. No one gave anything, no one had to. There was enough money in the endowment to pay the minister's salary, keep up the building and grounds, and hire a small choir.

Why Giving Is Good for People

But what happened? That church is down. The preacher preached, the choir sang, the janitor dusted. But nobody came. There were mornings when literally not one soul was there outside parson and choir, and one suspected they would not have been there if it had not been for the pay check. How would you like to preach or sing to an empty church? People are quite mistaken when they think it would be better if money were never mentioned in church, if people were never asked to give. A church where that happens just goes down. Giving is good for people,—not just any kind of giving, not throwing your money to the nearest beggars, but the kind of giving the church invites and challenges. You never give to the church, not to a good church; you give through the church, in Christ's name and for purposes which he surely approves. Giving is good for people because money is life—concentrated, portable life-energy. The money you have earned represents work you have done, thoughts you have had, energy you have spent. Now the money is in your hand, or in the bank. The thought, the work, the energy is gone, the time is gone; but the money has come back, it is your life. Now a church that does not challenge us to put our … will in the long run … Where treasure is, the heart follows, as Jesus … Giving is good for people … not-giving makes … and selfish.

Where Does the Money Go?

Nobody particularly likes to … in the dark. It doesn't do a … to shout at people, Be … what? is a fair question. … wise church will … all its people know … money goes after it … front somewhere on … things. Our Scripture … of a successful financial campaign carried on by King Josiah. There were points in his scheme that were then and are … sound principles for giving through the church. One is that … people could see exactly why … money was needed. There … been an unsuccessful attempt … collect money for the same purpose, namely repairing the Temple; but the collectors had been told to go out and get the money in other cities. That method did not work; one reason was … the collectors were in no …, and the other was that people living at a distance had no … of the need for repairs on the Temple. When they came up … Jerusalem, they could see very … that the shrine was about to … down.

Giving Is a Form of Worship

Another noteworthy feature of King Josiah's success in money-raising was that he got the money from the people who came to worship at the Temple. The first attempt was to approach the citizens at large; this failed. The second was to give the worshipers a chance to give; and they gave, literally till the money-chest ran over. The church can make a strong appeal to those who are devoted to the Kingdom of Love, …-conscious folk; but to outsiders, still living by the law of … and Grab, nothing the church does or tries to do will be worth a dime.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Released by Community Press Service.)

POND BUILDING PROGRAM OF STATE COMMISSION

Under the pond-building program of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, 611 acres have been added to the public fishing waters of the state. When current construction work is completed, an additional 67 acres will be provided.

Six new impoundments have been compelted and stocked with catchable sized fish of proper species. Lake Brittle, in Fauquier County near New Baltimore, embracing 77 acres, has been completed and stocked and will be open to the public for fishing June 15 of this year. Still another pond in Fluvanaa County, near Palmyra, is under construction and 67 more acres there will be open to public fishing in June, 1956.

Objective in creating all this fishing water has been to provide angling opportunities in areas of the state where chances to go fishing have not been as good as elsewhere. These ponds have been great boons to anglers in the regions in which they have been constructed. They also are fished by anglers coming from considerable distances because of the excellent fishing they are providing.

Lake Gordon, in Mecklenburg County, was the first of these artificial lakes to be completed. Its 157 acres have been fished ever since, anglers generally finding that the fishing has been excellent.

Lake Butron, in Pittsylvania County, providing 78 acres, was opened to pubilc fishing June 15, 1954, and so was Lake Conner, in Halifax County, a magnificant body of water consisting of 111 acres. Both of these ponds have been accommodating large numbers of anglers.

Farm Migration Figures Shows Social And Economic Progress

A look behind the figures for the long-term migration trend from the farm to the city and the over-all population shifts throughout the United States over the last few decades provides a vivid picture of the change and progress brought about by the growth of the economy and the widespread expansion of opportunity.

The most dramatic of these changes has occurred in the South. Up to a generation ago, the South was still predominantly agricultural, and Cotton was still King. It was the only broad region where the number of persons then living on farms made up more than half the population. U. S. Department of Agriculture figures show that in 1920 a total of 51.3 per cent of the population of the South lived on farms as compared with less than 30 per cent in the North Central States and under 25 per cent in the West.

Biggest Change in South

The rapid growth of industrialization below the Mason and Dixon Line has brought a fundamental change. The number of persons living on farms in the South has declined by more than 6 million since the beginning of the Twenties and the total now represents little more than a fifth of the entire population of the region. The proportion a year ago was exactly 22.2 per cent, according to the Agriculture Department. Combined with the higher earnings provided by jobs in business and industry, and diversification and mechanization of farm output, this population shift figures importantly in the strides made by average income levels in the South in recent years.

Big population shifts have also occurred in other parts of the country. The number of persons living on farms in the nation's bread-basket comprised by the North-Central States, declined by more than 3 million between 1920 and 1954. The proportion of farm to total population of the region showed an even greater rate of decline, from 29.7 per cent in 1920 to 15.2 per cent in 1954.

Trend in Other Regions

The number of persons living on farms in the West declined by only around 225,000 between 1920 and 1954. However, due to the great expansion of the overall population in the West in the period, particiularly on the Pacific Coast, the farm population last year represented only 9.1 per cent of the West's total population, as against 24.7 per cent in 1920. The farm population in the Northeast, which has been in a downtrend since the last century, declined by 600,000 between 1920 and 1954, and its proportion of the total population fell from 8.6 per cent to 4.7 per cent between those years.

Over all, the total farm population in the United States declined by more than 10 million in the 1920-54 period. Whereas the number of persons living on farms represented 30.1 per cent of the total U. S. population in 1920, the proportion was down to 13.8 per cent a year ago, the lowest ratio on record.

As a matter of fact, even a substantial proportion of those classified as living on farms now earn their livelihood in outside pursuits. The 1954 figures show that nearly 3 million farm residents, or a fifth of the entire farm population of working age, were employed in non-agricultural occupations.

One of the significant results of the decline in the farm population shows up in the income figures translated to a per capita basis. Though the number of active farmers is down to the lowest level in decades, production in general is at near-record levels. Much of the growth of farm income between the Twenties and now may reflect the big rise in prices over the last decade and a half, but a good deal also represents increased efficiency and more production of livestock with an assist from Government support operations.

For the three decades from 1924 to 1954, total cash receipts from farming (excluding Government payments and the off-the-farm income) rose from $10.2 billions to $30 billions, an increase of practically 200 per cent. Adjusted for the change in the farm population figures in the period, however, the per capita cash income from farming was more than four times as high last year as it was in 1924, rising from only $328 in 1924 to $1,368 last year.

The difference between the rise in total and per capita income is even more marked in the South where aggregate cash receipts from farming were up 169 per cent between 1924 and 1954 but on a per capita basis were up 313 per cent.

Your friend and neighbor in Lynchburg

1865--Our 90th Year--1955
The FIRST National Bank of Lynchburg
THE OLD, BIG, STRONG BANK
Chartered 1865
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

OLDSMOBILE ROCKETS TO 4TH PLACE IN APPOMATTOX

IT'S THE TALK OF THE TOWN —THE BUY OF THE YEAR!
New Go-Ahead Glamor and "Rocket" Go-Power Make the '55 Oldsmobile the Fastest Seller in our History!
You're rocketing ahead with a leader when you're behind the wheel of a record-breaking Oldsmobile! One look—one ride will bear out Oldsmobile's success story. For there's a "Go-Ahead" look in every low-level line of this bold new leader! Plus new "Rocket" liveliness that gives you instant "Go-Ahead" power! And when it comes to dependable value, all Oldsmobile history proves the "Rocket's" far out ahead. So come in and see us soon. See for yourself why Oldsmobile is way ahead ... *to stay ahead!*

1955 Super "88" Holiday Sedan. A General Motors Value.
SEE YOUR NEAREST OLDSMOBILE DEALER
MOSES MOTOR COMPANY
Phone 3773 License No. 3 Appomattox, Virginia
FOR THE BEST USED CAR DEAL ... LOOK FOR OLDSMOBILE'S SAFETY-TESTED SEAL